



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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To: Field Managers, Fire Management Officers, Aviation Managers, Supervisors, Air Operations Branch Directors, Air Support Group Supervisors, Helibase Managers, Helicopter Managers, Aviation Users

From: Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG) Working Group

Subject: 2005 rewrite of the IHOG, initial call for comments and recommendations.

The Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG) is currently scheduled for rewrite, printing and distribution prior to the 2005 summer field and fire season. Gathering and compiling field input is critical to the process of the rewrite and the quality of the IHOG. The entire IHOG will be reviewed for content, currency and usefulness. The Working Group welcomes all comments, corrections, updated policy and data, changes in format etc. Also all recommendations for additions of new subjects, information, items and deletion of old subjects, information, items are highly encouraged.

Attached is an example of the format the IHOG-WG prefers for field comments. Please use the electronic version of the format if possible to facilitate the compilation of comments and recommendations. Any and all field user input is welcomed and any form of communication will be accepted.

The comment period will remain open through the 2004 summer season and close October 31, 2004. The IHOG-WG will then compile and review all submissions for inclusion in the 2005 IHOG. Please send your input at any time during the period, so the WG may begin compiling the information but feel free to make additional submissions if needed.

As the amount and type of rewrite workload is determined Subject matter Task Groups will be formed. Volunteers for these task groups will be needed and anyone with interests in a specific subject or in the general process please contact your agency WG representative. Managers and supervisors please recommend those people you feel would make a positive contribution to the IHOG. Task group members will provide Subject Matter expertise and labor resource to the rewrite. Volunteers will not be expected to travel or impact their local units significantly as part of the process.

Points of contact for each agency are listed in the attached table of current IHOG-WG members. Please send communications to your respective member if possible, but to any of the Work Group if necessary.

Managers and supervisors are asked to insure this information is passed along to any and all personnel whom have aviation and helicopter operations responsibilities within their offices.

Additional information may be obtained through any IHOG-WG member, please feel free to contact anyone of them.

Cameron Dingman
Vice Chair, IHOG Workgroup